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PILOT PROGRAM COVERS SPACECRAFT EQUIPMENT DATA

Manufacturers of spacecraft equipment have been invited to participate in a one-year NASA pilot program to formulate a computer data bank of available flight-qualified equipment and flight-qualifiable equipment.

Objective of the program is to provide NASA Headquarters and field installations, the aerospace industry and the academic community with an up-to-date listing of such equipment. The information will be provided free of charge this year to users through a time-sharing computer system with access via local terminals.

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The list will cover two classes of equipment: (1) items launched or flight-qualified within the last two years; and (2) items considered to be flight-qualifiable because they are under contract for design, development or manufacture with a projected launch date.

An item is considered flight-qualified if it has successfully passed all U.S. government or commercial customer-specified qualification tests for intended missions. A commercial customer is an organization procuring satellite systems or subsystems from the manufacturer.

A current listing of NASA standard equipment has been established on an information services network time-sharing system. As a supplement to the standard equipment listing, the NASA Headquarters Office of the Chief Engineer, Systems Engineering Division, embarked on the one-year program in December to test the utility of a similar listing for available flight-qualified and flight-qualifiable equipment.

Further information may be obtained by contacting NASA Headquarters, Office of the Chief Engineer, Systems Engineering Division (Code DL-2), Washington, D.C. 20546, area code 202, 755-3040.